

Dear Secretary Salazar,

I support protecting the Grand Canyon's entire 1 million-acre watershed from uranium mining as outlined in Alternative B in the Draft Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal Environmental Impact Statement and Revisions to the Withdrawal Application, Arizona.

The Grand Canyon National Park is an international treasure. The diversity of habitats resulting from its great depth, its diverse topography, and its isolated seeps, springs and caves make it one of the most biologically diverse national parks in the United States.

The Grand Canyon is also the home of the Havasupai Nation. Indigenous Nations have been suffering from uranium mining for years. We can't sacrifice their lives. President Obama has signed the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in December 2011. Now, it is time to implement it.

Yours

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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
ARIZONA STRIP FIELD OFFICE

MAR 29 2011

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Yours

Robert S. Felt

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
ARIZONA STRIP FIELD OFFICE

MAR 29 2011

March 14, 2011

Northern Arizona Proposed Withdrawal Project
ATTN: Scott Florence, District Manager
Bureau of Land Management Arizona Strip District Office
345 East Riverside Drive
St. George, UT 84790-6714

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
ARIZONA STRIP FIELD OFFICE

MAR 29 2011

Dear Mr. Scott Florence,

I support U.S. Secretary of Interior Ken Salazar's proposed ban on new uranium mining claims on public land watersheds that drain into the Grand Canyon. I strongly urge the withdrawal of the 1,000,000 acres of BLM land from uranium mining for 20 years.

Uranium mining poses a serious risk to tourism, air quality, wildlife, and drinking water. Also, the economic benefit of uranium mining is relatively small for Americans. When the mining ends, so do the jobs (which are few), and then we are often left with significant environmental problems. According to a recent legal ruling by the U.S. Court of Appeals, the uranium mining process results in copious amounts of radioactive waste in the form of uranium mill tailings, a sandy waste produced during ore milling (from which only one to five pounds of usable uranium is extracted from every two thousand pounds of mined ore).

The mining of uranium could impact the Grand Canyon in a similar way that the mining of oil has impacted the Gulf of Mexico. Uranium processing in the area of Tuba City, Arizona has created over 1.6 million cubic yards of residual radioactive materials, and caused the contamination of approximately 783 million gallons of groundwater. The contaminants of concern are uranium (a radioactive element), molybdenum, nitrate, selenium, and sulfite. Cleanup costs have already been astronomical for many uranium sites in the United States, and according to the government the estimated "total life cycle" costs are \$99,232,000 for environmental restoration of the Tuba City Mill Site between 1996 and 2015 (represented as the sum of annual costs in fiscal year 1999).

Sincerely,



Lily Leigh Throckmorton

~~1267 Douglas Blvd~~

~~1267 Douglas Blvd~~

1048 E. Riverside Dr. #16
Truth or Consequences, NM
87901